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REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending.

The independent Claims 1, 12, and 18 have been amended to recite and further clarify that the additional touch screen display is not over or a part of the main display, consistent with the original dependent Claims 7-9 and 13-15. Claim 12 had already contained an equivalent limitation, but the language in Claim 12 has been augmented to be consistent with the other independent claims.

The claims are directed to an organic light emitting (OLED) display separate from the main display in a gaming machine. An OLED display enables the display to be very thin and flexible so that it may be placed virtually anywhere on a gaming machine. A second aspect of the claims is that the OLED display is not over or a part of the main game display (such as reels). It is known in the prior art to superimpose images over the reels to convey additional information that interacts with the reel information. Such a prior art superimposition creates a semi-transparent second display over the main display. In contrast, Applicant's claimed OLED display is separate from the main display area. A third aspect of the claims is that the OLED display is a touch screen so the player can touch portions of the screen associated with the OLED display and control functions, such as the selection of a particular game to play. The OLED touch screen display may be located over the printed display glass (typically above or below the main display) or located at another unused area of the gaming machine. The images displayed by the OLED touch screen display may be changed for different games with no change in the hardware. Any bonus game or additional controller can be added to an "old" gaming machine simply by adhering the thin OLED touch screen display on any portion of the display glass and reprogramming the computerized gaming machine.

The examiner rejected Claims 1-17 as being obvious over Loose patent 6,517,433 in combination with Loose publication 2003/0157980.

Loose '433 is directed to superimposing an image over mechanical reels, such as by using an angled glass plate and a CRT 14b (Fig. 2b) or a flat panel transmissive LCD display (Fig. 2a, col. 2, lines 41-46). Loose's angled glass plate or transmissive display may be a

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touch screen (col. 2, lines 47-51; col. 3, lines 1-3). If the Loose gaming machine used video reels, there would be no need for his invention since the exact same effect could be produced on a single video screen at no extra expense. Even if Loose '433 suggested that the semi-transparent display superimposed over the reels were an OLED display, this would not suggest to locate an OLED touch screen at an area other than over the main display. One purpose of the Loose '433 superimposed display is to correlate the superimposed display with the reels (e.g., show activated paylines (col. 3, lines 38-40) or highlight winning combinations (col. 4, lines 3-5)). This important function would be lost if Loose's image were located away from the main display. Consistent with the above description of the purpose of the Loose '433 invention, each of Loose's claims requires that a function of the video screen is to generate an image that is superimposed over the mechanical reels.

Regarding Claim 1, the office action did not address the non-obviousness of locating the OLED touch screen display away from the main game display area. Regarding Claims 7-9 and 13-15, which specify locations of the OLED display away from the main display, the examiner referred to the following sections of Loose '433: col. 2, lines 58-60; col. 3, lines 7-8; and col. 5, lines 38-41. Loose's col. 2, lines 58-60, and col. 3, lines 7-8, are directed to the physical location of the CRT 14b in Fig. 2b or other image generator whose image is reflected off the angled glass in front of the reels so the image is superimposed over the reels. This could not be Applicant's claimed OLED display since Applicant's OLED display has a touch screen over it, and the Loose '433 screens of the non-transparent displays are deep within the body of the gaming machine. Col. 5, lines 38-41, is directed to the transparent screen in front of the main display, where some of the graphics may be displayed slightly below the reels to avoid confusion. The screen still overlaps the entire main display area since its main purpose is to provide information that visually overlaps the reels.

The examiner cited Loose '980 for its teaching of using OLEDs in a display. Loose '980 is identical to Loose '433 in its pertinent respects. Both are strictly limited to locating the video display in the same area as the main game so that the video display is interactive with the main game and becomes part of it. Loose '980 is unrelated to using the video display as a touch screen controller, since the video image forms part of the main game display.

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Accordingly, the Loose '980 publication does not suggest to modify the Loose '433 machine to provide an OLED touch screen at a location other than over the main display area. Applicant's invention provides various advantages, discussed above, which are not related to the functions of the Loose '433 and '980 video displays.

Accordingly, Applicant's independent Claim 1 and related independent method Claim 12 are respectfully submitted to be patentable over the combination of references.

Dependent Claim 5 is particularly nonobvious since it limits the main display to an "electronic display device." Loose '433 is strictly limited to using mechanical reels, otherwise the additional superimposed display is not needed. There could be no suggestion by Loose '433 to combine an OLED touch screen with a video reel display, since a video screen for the main game could then perform the function of the Loose '433 additional display. The Loose '980 video display either serves as the main game display or augments mechanical reels. This is inconsistent with Applicant's Claim 5.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above analysis supports Claims 1-17 being patentable over the combination of references.

The examiner rejected independent **Claim 18** and dependent Claims 20 and 21 as being anticipated by Loose '433.

Claim 18 includes the limitation that "the entire three-dimensional display being located at a position other than over or in the main display area." Therefore, the reasons given above for why Claims 1 and 12 are not obvious also apply to amended Claim 18 and its dependent Claims 19-21.

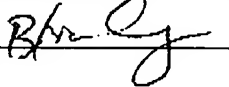
Accordingly, all claims have been shown to be patentable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested.

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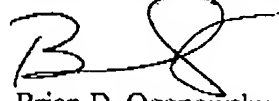
Please telephone the undersigned at (408) 382-0480 ex. 202, if there are any questions or the examiner believes the claims need to be clarified.

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Respectfully submitted,


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